

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending. Claims 9-16 were previously canceled in response to a restriction requirement. Claim 1 is amended herein. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and requests allowance of claims 1-8.

35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph, Rejection

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement (see page 2 of the final Office Action).

The final Office Action contends that “detect errors” and/or “extract information” from the “third party” standard file layout was not described in the specification. The Applicant respectfully contends that the aforementioned terms, as found in claim 1, find support in the specification. The specification gives examples of the standard file layout, detecting errors in standard file layout, and extracting information when discussing the example of the service account records on at least on page 13, line 8 through page 14, line 14, as well as in Figures 9 and 10 and their associated descriptions.

Furthermore, claim 1 had been previously amended in a response to the final Office Action to recite “wherein the standard file layout comprises service account records....” Additionally, claim 1 has been amended herein to recite, in part, “wherein the service account records comprise an identifier for the customer and usage charge information for the customer associated with the communication service from the third-party....” No new matter has been added.

The Applicant respectfully contends that in light of the above remarks, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, regarding claim 1 have been met. Claims 2-8 depend from independent claim 1, thus incorporating the provisions of claim 1. Thus, the Applicant respectfully contends that claims 2-8 are allowable for at least the reasons presented above in support of claim 1, and such indication is respectfully requested. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 1-8 based upon 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, Rejection

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter (see page 2 of the final Office Action).

The final Office Action contends that “standard file layout,” “processing to detecting errors,” and “a third party error” are vague and indefinite. Claim 1 has been amended in the response to final Office Action to include “wherein the standard file layout comprises service account records....” In addition, the specification teaches examples of the standard file layout and detecting errors in standard file layout when discussing the example of the service account records on at least on page 13, line 8 through page 14, line 14, as well as in Figures 9 and 10 and their associated descriptions.

Also, “third party” as found in claim 1 refers not to a numerical party, but to a party *other than that of the communication network*. (See specification, page 7, lines 9-11.) Claims 1 and 8 had been previously amended in the response to the final Office Action to show a hyphenated usage of “third-party” as found throughout the specification. Additionally, claim 1 has been amended herein to further clarify that the communication network is operated by a “first service provider” and the third-party network is operated by a “second service provider.” No new matter has been added.

The Applicant respectfully contends that in light of the above remarks, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, regarding claim 1 have been met. Claims 2-8 depend from independent claim 1, thus incorporating the provisions of claim 1. Thus, the Applicant respectfully contends that claims 2-8 are allowable for at least the reasons presented above in support of claim 1, and such indication is respectfully requested. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 1-8 based upon 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above remarks, the Applicant submits that the claims in their present form are allowable. Additional reasons in support of patentability exist, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of clarity and brevity. The Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the claims at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

The Applicant hereby authorizes the Office to charge Deposit Account No. 21-0765 the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) for the Request for Continued Examination (37 C.F.R. § 1.114(a)) and the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for a one-month extension of time. The Applicant believes there are no other fees due with respect to this filing. However, should the Office determine additional fees are necessary, the Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

/David J. Bovitz/

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

David J. Bovitz, Reg. No. 61,911

Setter Roche LLP

Telephone: (720) 562-2280

E-mail: dave@setterroche.com

Correspondence address:

CUSTOMER NO. 28004

Attn: Melissa A. Jobe

Sprint

6391 Sprint Parkway

Mailstop: KSOPHT0101-Z2100

Overland Park, KS 66251-2100